| ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION | Public Meeting Comments 9.14.21 | | | | | |
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| Timestamp | Meeting Date | Agenda Item | First and Last Name | Zip Code | Representing | Comments |
| 9/14/2021 8:16:44 | Sept. 14, 2021 | Public Records Act of Compliance | Diane Boman | 86303 | myself | The IRC began acknowledging PRA requested with an automated response sometime in mid August. To date none of these requests have been met. The oldest public records request was submitted June 21st. 85 days ago. |
| 9/14/2021 8:32:43 | Sept. 14, 2021 | COI REPORT | Julie Pindzola | 86301 | Myself | I am looking forward to your COI REPORT. Recently I am having difficulty using the COI REPORT tool on the site. A week ago I could find and bring up a relatively clean map of overlays for Yavapai County (and question the survey input displayed.) A day or two later, only an obscured map was findable, now no map at all. If I am overlooking the tool somehow, please make it easier to find and use. This is not good. Thank you |
| 9/14/2021 8:34:57 | Sept. 14, 2021 | Competitiveness | Diane Boman | 86303 | myself | It has been implied by Commissioner Neuberg that competitiveness can only be considered if the lack of competitiveness is detrimental to another criteria. This is not true. Competitiveness is one of six criteria that must be balanced. The 2 criteria that are being used to measure competitiveness is 1) election results from the past 3 election cycles to determine how close the average vote in a proposed district would have been and 2) use those measurements to determine how often the proposed district would have changed hands between Democrat and Republicans. The IRC has excluded outlier races of the 2016 senate contest and 2018 Gubernatorial contest. These 2 races were won by Republicans in double digits. Also omitted were elections from Corporation Commission because these races featured multiple seats with Dems and Reps putting up different number of candidates. These races should not be excluded when determining criteria for competitiveness. |
| 9/14/2021 8:38:37 | Sept. 14, 2021 | Demographers Racial presentation | Julie Pindzola | 86301 | Myself | I hope all the commissioners are actively listening. I notice one commissioner who has not raised his head once during the presentation. It may be dry but it is important. |
| 9/14/2021 8:38:48 | Sept. 14, 2021 | V. State Demographer's presentation | Nelson Morgan | 85054 | Self | Please strongly advise presenters to take care that their font size be large enough that critical information is readable by the public. Of course we appreciate their efforts to present to us, but the slides are useless if the contents are not readable. This presentation was very interesting to me but I needed to rely almost entirely on his spoken commentary since the slide text could be not be read. Thank you. |
| 9/14/2021 8:47:18 | Sept. 14, 2021 | VIA | Maggie McConnell | 85016 | self | I'd like to thank Chair Neuberg for addressing at the Commission's August 31 meeting a comment that I submitted during the prior week's meeting. In my comment, I expressed concern about attorney Brett Johnson's comment on July 20th referencing the mapping consultant receiving input from "stakeholders" to explain their proposed maps. Referring to my comment, Chair Neuberg stated that she was somewhat confused by it but assured the public that there are no conversations going on between stakeholders and the mapping consultant. Her comments referred only to the present. Today, I'd like to clarify my comment so that my meaning is indisputable. The mapping consultant should never - now or in the future - meet privately with "stakeholders" because it cannot be done fairly (that is, with access given to the huge number of constituencies) and transparently. The IRC is holding public hearings and it has provided various means for members of the public to provide input including access to the ESRI mapping software. "Stakeholders" should not be provided with special access not available to the public. I hope this helps. Thank you. |
| 9/14/2021 8:49:10 | Sept. 14, 2021 | Compared stats from IRC v3 1st Round to current commission IRC v2 | Diane Boman | 86303 | myself | V2 Public hearings logged 298 hours. V3 Public hearings logged 36 hours to date. V2 collected 7300 written comments V3 910 comments Between 3/31/2011 and 1/13/2012 1831 people showed up in person to one of the meetings. This is evidence that we are no where near full representation of Arizona as a whole. The fact that minorities have been poorly represented to this point and the minimal amount of "travel" that the commission has completed is evidence that much more work needs to be done. At this point I do not believe that the commission can pat themselves on the back when comparing themselves to other states. |

| ARIZONA DEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION | Public Meeting Comments 9.14.21 | | | | | |
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| 9/14/2021 9:16:38 | Sept. 14, 2021 | V. State Demographer's presentation. | William Bowlus-Root | 85365 | Myself | There was a great deal of really interesting information in Dr. Chang's presentation, but I didn't hear what I was hoping to. I was interested in how the relative population shifted in the state since the last census; i.e., what areas experienced relatively more/less change (at the block level, but also at the city and county levels too). Such a map could also display the degree of change too (e.g., using light green for 1-5% increase, dark green for 6-10% increase, etc.) Then, I'd like to be able to see the same with regard to the demographic breakdown. That data would be extremely helpful for members of the public who are studying and preparing to create their own maps. William Bowlus-Root A concerned citizen |
| 9/14/2021 9:17:23 | Sept. 14, 2021 | COI | Julie Pindzola | 86301 | Myself | Tell people how to access and navigate this COI report |
| 9/14/2021 9:23:54 | Sept. 14, 2021 | demographer presentation | Susan Bickel | 85718 | self | It might be helpful to look at previous and current legislation that has impacted change in population. Redlining has historically kept people from integrating into other populations. Economic, social and geographic realities are also impactful. Look into the migration of Hispanics into the Tempe area in the 40s, 50s and 60s. |
| 9/14/2021 9:26:47 | Sept. 14, 2021 | VI. Update from the mapping Consultants, Timmons/NDC. | Nelson Morgan | 85054 | Self | Timmons is emphasizing the degree of overlap (number of common areas for COI submittals, as represented by a heat map). Extreme caution should be used here, since many people get talking points from a limited set of sources. If this is an important indicator, I would think we would want to deemphasize entries that were copies of other ones. This is a geographic version of what we have previously seen when floods of public comments all used the same sentence provided by a partisan source. |
| 9/14/2021 9:32:20 | Sept. 14, 2021 | Collection of Data, Sharing IRC Materials | Wes Crew | 85737 | for | How is the IRC making sure that all general public both English and Spanish speaking are getting equitable access to materials outside of the az.gov site. Is there social media outreach or anything being put in the AZDaily Star news paper etc. ? |
| 9/14/2021 9:36:22 | Sept. 14, 2021 | VI. Update from the mapping Consultants, Timmons/NDC - B. Mapping Software public training | Kendra Alvarez | 85701 | All On The Line Arizona | Dear IRC Commissioners and Staff, We submit the following for your consideration, as you roll out the public mapping tool this week. First, we encourage you to offer training services in multiple languages so that all Arizonans can watch and learn how to utilize the software. Making the mapping tool available to the public is a great step, and you must ensure that communities that are not English speakers can use your public mapping tools and fully participate in the public input process. Second, we call on you to create a paper mapping form, also available in multiple languages, that community leaders could download or print. Communities that do not have broadband internet access still need to have their voice heard and submit input by mail. We thank you for your efforts to seek public input, and we offer these suggestions to ensure that all Arizona residents have a chance to participate. |
| 9/14/2021 9:39:35 | Sept. 14, 2021 | Public interest | Jessica Baxley | 85712 | | How does the commission ensure that everyone is aware of the opportunity to state interest? Are the announcements bilingual? Are the made on the reservation or low income community gathering places so that say S. Tucson communities have same opportunity as foothills community? |

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| 9/14/2021 9:40:09 | Sept. 14, 2021 | VI. Update from the mapping Consultants, Timmons/NDC. | Nelson Morgan | 85054 | Self | Continuing on the question of disambiguating copies from unique submissions: Commissioner Lerner asked about this, and there needs to be a more concrete response. In particular, the Commissioners should have a measure (visual or otherwise) that alerts them to the extent to which an emphasized region is emphasized because of copies rather than more unique submissions. This could be a numerical measure, or else just a heat map that has de-emphasized submissions that are too similar to one another. In particular I would think that there would at least need to be a strong de-emphasis of exact copies, perhaps even dropping them. This does not mean that they need to be ignored - just that the Commissioners need access to a measure that reflects this concern. Just saying that they will consider everything is insufficient if they are not given measures or figures that help them to properly consider the variance in the originality of submissions. You will have a lot to look at. |
| 9/14/2021 9:41:48 | Sept. 14, 2021 | Lerner's question | Susan Bickel | 85718 | self | Thank you Commissioner Lerner for questioning and continuing to bring awareness to the question of quantity of submissions to quality of submissions. Bombarding the commission with the same talking points and maps could be interpreted as a great deal of interest, Conversely, it could be interpreted as one group dictating a message. |
| 9/14/2021 10:03:34 | Sept. 14, 2021 | Grid maps - Legal Question | Sharon Edgar | 86004 | self | I have a legal question. Prop 106 did not mention using county boundaries when creating grid maps. Is it constitutionally compliant to have taken county boundaries into consideration? |
| 9/14/2021 10:09:14 | Sept. 14, 2021 | D. Discussion and possible adoption of Grid Maps | William Bowlus-Root | 85365 | Myself | From the discussion of the process for creating the approved Grid Map doesn't seem to have followed the method that was discussed in the earlier meeting and approved by the Commission. In particular the way that census blocks were added together does not match what was shown as an example during that earlier presentation. Instead, it appears the blocks were added by extending the district from the initial block outward from the center and then to the sides of that line until enough population was covered to meet the target total. The result is a pie-chart like map where a very different-looking map would have been created if the |
| | | | | | | commission's direction had been followed. |
| | | | | | | The Grid Map is crucial because it serves as a starting point for all subsequent discussions around setting the final boundaries. I'm concerned the resulting decisions will be negatively impacted by using this Grid Map. |
| | | | | | | William Bowlus-Root A concerned citizen |
| 9/14/2021 10:32:58 | Sept. 14, 2021 | VI. Update from the mapping Consultants, Timmons/NDC. | Nelson Morgan | 85054 | Self | D. Johnson's presentation was fine. However, I didn't hear about any step that focused on gathering quantitative measures for things like competitiveness and bias (for instance by planscore output). That, along with a measure of compactness, is critical. I understand that the Commission needs to make decisions and not a robotic analysis method, but quantitative measures provide critical information for the IRC. |